

# THE LACLEDE BLADE.

A. J. CAYWOOD, Publisher.

LACLEDE, - - - MISSOURI.

## Editing the Consular Reports.

In the bureau of trade relations the consular reports are carefully read and, when necessary, so revised as to eliminate everything unsuitable for publication from the standpoint of the interests of the government. Not infrequently a report is of such character as to make it inexpedient to publish any portion, in which case it is filed in toto in the archives of the department of state for future reference. All statements in the reports calculated to cause adverse criticism in a foreign country, or to bring about diplomatic representations on the part of another government, or to embarrass the administration of any executive branch of our own government are omitted from the material transmitted to the department of commerce and labor for publication. Under the head of matter that is objectionable because of its probable effect in a foreign community, explains John Hall Osborne in Atlantic Monthly, come slighting allusions to any nationality or race; adverse criticism, even implied, of the political, social or religious institutions; disparaging statements in regard to the enforcement of the laws; charges of dishonesty and inefficiency of the officials, etc. In short, anything that reflects on the integrity and efficiency of the foreign administration, or that might offend the sensibilities of the people of the country, is eliminated in the state department, which is, of course, the best judge of the diplomatic proprieties.

## The Paris of South America.

Buenos Ayres is "the whole thing" in Argentina. I know no country in the world which is so dominated by its capital, writes Albert Hale in The Reader. If the traveler comes from the interior after leaving behind the splendors of Andean scenery and crossing the 500 miles of prairie, he feels like a swimmer who has been a long time under water and takes his first deep breath of civilization when he enters the city. I arrived at six o'clock in the morning, before the busy life of the harbor awoke. As we rolled along the broad water front and up the Avenida Mayo, I said to myself, "I must have taken the wrong steamer or I am dreaming. Surely I am in Europe." It was not that things seemed European or that it was easy to detect an imitation; it was Europe. No amount of self-argument would overcome this illusion; the asphalt smelt as it does in Europe and was cleaned in the European way; the little trees grew in the tradition of European culture, the buildings were French, the cafes, the news-stands, all the lazy life of the early morning was continental. . . . No wonder a chatty old French lady asked me at dejeuner, "How do you like Buenos Ayres? It's Little Paris, isn't it?"

## Physical Condition of the Poor.

It is an old saying that every inch a man adds to his chest measure adds to the measure of his days. America can show twice as many physicians to population as Great Britain, and four times as many as Germany. We have 70 times as many physicians in proportion to the general population as physical directors. We permit this disparity on the theory, perhaps, that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Prevention needs more numerical representation. I am, then, pleading, contends Stickney Grant in North American Review, that the following steps may be taken in public school instruction: 1. An effective system of physical education to be a recognized part of our public school system. By "effective" I mean one that does for a boy, so far as his physique is susceptible, what the United States army setting-up exercises do for a recruit. The precise system to be established by a committee of experts. 2. Athletic exercises in schools, using gymnasiums, baths, etc. 3. Open-air exercises and sports under official supervision. 4. Summer camps, free of cost and compulsory in attendance, for boys of school age. 5. A noon meal for poor children in elementary and high schools.

How Roosevelt found time to write that article on "The Ancient Irish Sagas" is puzzling many persons. It will be remembered that the president announced that he would not write any articles for magazines during his term. Perhaps the Irish saga essay was written at Harvard, and has been lost in the shuffle at the magazine office ever since.

# NEARING THE END

The Cross and Re-direct Examination of Mrs. Thaw Finished After Five Days.

## HUMMEL ON THE STAND

Delmas Blocked All Efforts to Get Facts As To the Affidavit Made in His Office Regarding Thaw.

New York, Feb. 22.—Under the stress of a cross-examination in which District Attorney Jerome gave no quarter, Mrs. Evelyn Nesbit Thaw broke down Thursday upon the witness stand. With blinding tears burning their way down cheeks which from ashen white had flushed to crimson, she admitted that after her first experience with Stanford White her relations with the architect continued several months. There were other confessions, also, which while damaging to her own character, accentuated all the more the terrible personal sacrifice she is making in the effort to save her husband from the electric chair. The case has progressed to the point where the defendant has been all but lost sight of. His girl like wife is the figure about whom the storm lashes. She it is whose life is being searched out and who is being held up to scorn by the prosecuting officer.

New York, Feb. 26.—Except for one brief moment, Mrs. Evelyn Nesbit Thaw had a decidedly easy day Monday during the continuation of her cross-examination by District Attor-

court adjourned last Thursday it appeared from her own statements that she had used a letter of credit from Stanford White while touring in Europe and had turned the letter over to Thaw. She explained Monday that Thaw took the letter of credit from her, saying the money was "poisonous" and neither she nor her mother should touch it and that he would provide them with funds. Whatever had been spent of the money, she declared, had been for her mother.

The second point Mrs. Thaw made was concerning the cablegrams which Thaw is said to have sent to Stanford White from London. It appeared Thursday that these cablegrams were requests to White to use his influence in keeping Mrs. Nesbit from "raising a row" and interfering with Evelyn continuing in company with Thaw. Mr. Jerome took up the subject again Monday, but his questions solicited the information that the letters did not concern Mrs. Thaw at all, but related to a man—a secretary of the American embassy—in London, whom Mrs. Thaw said, had "sneaked up to mama's bedroom and insulted her." She said the man had also insulted her and that Thaw had gone in search of him but failed to find him.

New York, Feb. 27.—Mrs. Evelyn Nesbit Thaw's long ordeal on the witness stand at the trial of her husband for the killing of Stanford White, ended Tuesday. Mr. Jerome finished his cross-examination which had lasted through nearly five court days, at the morning session. The re-direct and re-cross-examinations were brief. The completion of Mrs. Thaw's examination followed the unsuccessful effort of the prosecution to draw from Abraham Hummel certain facts relating to the affidavit which Mrs.

## UNDER JEROME'S GRILL.



Sketch of Mrs. Evelyn Nesbit Thaw While Undergoing the Severe Cross-Examination of the District Attorney.

ney Jerome. When adjournment was taken, the prosecutor announced that he had practically concluded with the witness.

During the morning session Mr. Jerome played his strongest card of the day. Mrs. Thaw denied most positively that she had ever been to see a Doctor Carleton Flint with Jack Barrymore.

"Call Dr. Flint," commanded Mr. Jerome.

The doctor entered from the witness room and was escorted to within a few feet of the witness chair.

"Did you ever see that man before?" Mr. Jerome asked Mrs. Thaw.

The witness seemed a bit startled, looked quickly and intently at the physician, then turned to Mr. Jerome and shook her head.

"Never," she declared.

Mrs. Thaw was in much better spirits when she took the stand Monday and looked decidedly better physically than she did last week. She had all her wits about her and did not fare at all badly at the hands of the district attorney, who was more gentle in handling the witness.

Instead of further hurting the cause of her husband, Mrs. Thaw managed to make two decided gains. When

Thaw is said to have made in Hummel's law office. In this affidavit, it is declared there was an allegation that Thaw had beaten the girl while abroad in 1903, when she told him there was no truth in the story about her relations with Stanford White.

Mr. Delmas for the defense, blocked practically every question put to Hummel. The witness got no further than to say he knew Mrs. Thaw, that she came to his office October 27, 1903, and that he dictated to a stenographer while she was there. Justice Fitzgerald held that under the rules of evidence covering Mrs. Thaw's testimony the introduction of collateral facts was not permissible. The district attorney is not allowed to controvert her testimony in any way, but may test her credibility. Mr. Jerome said in open court that he realized that even if he could show Stanford White was in Europe the night Mrs. Thaw declares she was assaulted by him, he would not be allowed to introduce such testimony.

It was reported that Mr. Jerome has much testimony to offer in rebuttal, but as it is nearly all of a collateral character he will not be allowed to place it before the jury.

## NEW CANAL PLANS.

Only One Member of Old Commission to Remain—Government Engineers Get Good Salaries.

Washington. — The president conferred at the White house Wednesday with Secretaries Taft and Root regarding details of the reorganization scheme for the Panama canal work.

It is understood that Colonel Hains and Benjamin Harrod, civil engineers both members of the present commission, shall retire. Admiral Endicott the only remaining member of the old commission, will be retained, as the law requires that one naval civil engineer shall be included in its membership.

Majors Goethals, Galliard and Selbert, who Tuesday were named as members of the commission and engineers to conduct canal construction will receive salaries considerably in excess of those they now receive, namely \$4,000. It is the intention to divide among them the salaries now paid to Messrs Shonts and Stevens, aggregating \$60,000 per annum, as long as they are engaged in canal work.

## House Exonerates Bailey.

Austin, Tex. — By a vote of 70 to 40, Senator Joseph W. Bailey was exonerated by the lower house of the Texas legislature Wednesday night of any charges of irregular acts in public life as alleged by Representative Cocks on January 14. This action concludes weeks of investigation that has caused Senator Bailey's constant presence in this city. On Monday, by a vote of 15 to 11, the senate exonerated Mr. Bailey without waiting to hear the report of the investigating committee. The house Wednesday night acted on the recommendation of a majority of the committee for a complete exoneration without submission of the evidence.

## Sold Worthless Mining Stock.

Denver, Col. — C. L. Blackman, fiscal agent, and Arthur Levan, trustee of the Lost Bullion Spanish mines company, with offices in the Temple court building in this city, were arrested Wednesday by Deputy United States Marshal I. I. Frank on charges of having used the mails to defraud by advertising and selling worthless stock. The charges were made by Postoffice Inspectors Macomic and Biddeford who have investigated complaints made against the company. The company's books, the inspectors say, show that \$60,000 has been secured in the last four months from the sale of stock at 40 cents a share.

## Agreed on River and Harbor Bill.

Washington. — After listening to an argument by Senator Patterson of Colorado, in favor of government ownership of railroads, the senate Wednesday agreed to the conference report on the river and harbor appropriation bill. Protests were made against the reduction from \$650,000 to \$250,000 of the amount for improvements in the Mississippi river between Carlo and St. Louis, by Senators Hopkins, Sullom, Stone, Allison and Overman. The smaller amount prevailed.

## Boilermakers Return to Work.

St. Louis. — The boilermakers apprentices and helpers employed by the Missouri Pacific & Iron Mountain system, who have been on a strike to secure higher wages, agreed Wednesday night to return to work between now and Monday and submit their grievances to Vice President Clarke of the system for adjustment. The men will return to work at the same scale they received when they made their demands for an increase.

## One Ice Trust Conviction.

Columbus, O. — The trial of the cases against the men and corporations alleged to be parties to the so-called local ice trust Wednesday night returned a verdict of guilty against C. Malcolm Kinniard and W. F. Polley. All the other defendants were acquitted. The maximum penalty is a fine of \$5,000 and twelve months imprisonment in the county jail or workhouse. The convicted men will seek a new trial.

## No "Jim Crow" Law There.

Guthrie, Okla. — The constitution of the proposed new state of Oklahoma will not contain a plank providing for separate coaches and waiting rooms for the two races. By a vote of 46 to 31 the convention Wednesday morning laid on the table the committee report urging the "Jim Crow" measure.

## Violated Olemargeline Law.

St. Louis. — Phineas Ester was sentenced in the United States district court Wednesday to 60 days in jail and fined \$1,400 for violating the olemargeline laws. The trial was before a jury. Judge Amidon was on the bench.

# THE DOINGS OF CONGRESS

Items of Interest From the National Capital.

More Important Happenings in Senate and House During the Past Week.

## Reed Smoot Remains.

Washington.—Senator Reed Smoot retains his seat in the United States Senate. This was decided Wednesday by a vote of 42 to 28, ending a long contest. Eighteen senators were paired, making the actual standing on the resolution 51 for and 37 against. Senator Smoot did not vote, and Senator Wetmore was absent and not paired.

The Smoot resolution was called up soon after the senate convened. Every seat in the galleries was filled and during the actual voting the standing room on the floor of the senate was crowded by members of the house and employees of the senate. Seldom had there been a proceeding affecting the standing of a senator that has attracted such marked attention. In the audience were representatives of a number of prominent women's organizations which have been active in circulating and having presented petitions of remonstrance against Mr. Smoot. These women secured many thousand signatures to their petitions.

## Senate Appropriates \$365,000,000.

Washington, D. C. — The senate Monday passed the agricultural appropriation bill, carrying nearly \$10,000,000; the postoffice appropriation bill, carrying \$210,000,000; the pension appropriation bill, carrying \$145,000,000 and the bill authorizing the establishment of an agricultural bank in the Philippines. The principal fight over the agricultural bill took place on the Beveridge amendment requiring the packers to pay the cost of administering the meat inspection law. This amendment was defeated on a point of order. Mr. Beveridge secured the adoption of an amendment which requires the date of canning and inspection to appear on the label of the can containing meat products.

## Rush Ship Subsidy.

Washington. — Ship subsidy secured a marked impetus Monday in the house, which just before adjournment adopted a rule that will probably insure the passage by the house of the Littau's substitute for the senate bill and may result before the final adjournment in positive legislation. The rule was reported by Mr. Dalzell in the shape of a resolution providing that the compromise bill shall be considered with debate limited to five hours and that the final vote shall be taken not later than next Friday at noon at 3 o'clock. The rule was adopted by a vote of 138 to 122. 24 republicans voted with the democrats in opposition to the rule.

## Cost of Government.

Washington. — It costs just a little more than twice as much to run the government of the United States now as it did ten years ago. One session of the Fifty-Ninth Congress by the time it has completed its labors will have appropriated more than both sessions of the Fifty-fourth. Ten years ago the per capita cost of government was \$9, now it is \$12.50.

## Filibustered in the House.

Washington. — Smarting under what they considered unfair treatment, the democrats resorted to a systematic series of objections against provisions in the sundry civil bill Thursday in the house. They compelled the republicans to maintain 100 members, a quorum of the committee of the whole.

## The House Hears Eulogies.

Washington. — Eulogies on the lives of the late Senator Russell A. Alger of Michigan and the late Representative Zeny Cullom Adams of Wisconsin; William S. Flack of New York and J. H. Ketcham of New York were pronounced Sunday in the house, which convened to pay tribute to the statesmen.

## Two Veto Messages.

Washington. — The veto messages of two house bills were received from the president Tuesday, one of them negating the Kiowa pasture town-site bill, and the other a bill for the relief of a civilian who served in the Civil war.

## Conferees Appointed.

Washington. — Conferees were appointed by the house in the postoffice appropriation bill after an ineffectual effort had been made to recede and concur in certain Senate amendments relating to the pay of rural letter carriers and railway mail employees.

## Another Measure Signed.

Washington. — The president Friday signed the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill, the first of the regular supply measures to be acted on by congress.